

## SHE BURNS AT SEA

The Steamer Columbian Is Lost Off Sable Island.

Twenty-Seven of Her Crew Rescued From Open Boats.

Sable Island, May 6.—Captain McDonald and thirteen men of the crew of the British steamer Columbian burned at sea, were saved by the steamer Manhattan. A wireless dispatch to this effect was received from the Manhattan by the Marconi station here today.

The Manhattan, bound from New York for Antwerp, had been near the scene of the burning of the Columbian for some hours and was known to be searching for boats containing members of the Columbian crew. Her success was announced in the following message:

"Manhattan picked up one boat of Columbian, captain and thirteen others. One engineer killed in explosion and one man drowned leaving ship. Manhattan still searching for other boats."

The rescue, it was added, was made early this morning in 41.19 north latitude and 53.35 west longitude. Yesterday the Cunard liner Franconia picked up one of the Columbian boats containing 13 men and the body of Chief Steward Matthews, who had been missing since the burning of the Columbian. The other missing boat for which the Manhattan and other steamers are still searching contains the first and second officers and 17 men.

**Mystery Is Solved.**

Boston, May 6.—The mystery surrounding the identity of the steamer which was on fire in the west-bound trans-Atlantic steamer lane south of Sable Island was solved when wireless messages from the Cunard liner Franconia told of the burning of the freighter Columbian, and the rescue of thirteen members of her crew from a small boat. The death of Chief Steward Matthews, whose body the survivors had in charge, and the disappearance of a second boat, in which were nineteen men, including the first and second officers, also were reported.

Whether the number of missing was represented by those said to be in the second boat is still uncertain. Estimates by officials of the Leyland and Phoenix lines placed the number of the crew at between forty-five and fifty. The messages from the Franconia told of only thirty-three men, represented by the occupants of the small boat. It was thought possible that there was a third boat, commanded by Captain McDonald of the Columbian.

The survivors suffered terribly during forty hours exposure in an open boat. Their exhaustion was so great that it was impossible to obtain a coherent story from them several hours after they were picked up.

The Columbian, caught fire Sunday night when about 300 miles south of Cape Race, a series of violent explosions occurred immediately. Captain McDonald ordered the wireless operator, James Drohan, to call for assistance, but one of the explosions put the wireless apparatus out of commission, cutting off the Columbian from communication with near-by ocean liners, which might have gone to the rescue.

With the vessel belching flames and torn by the explosions, it soon became evident that the crew could do nothing to control the fire, and the order to abandon ship was given.

The men left the Columbian in two boats. Chief Steward Matthews was in charge of the first. This boat put away from the steamer and lay to for a time in the dense smoke which surrounded the burning vessel, the other boat finally drifted far from the scene.

Of their suffering during the forty hours in which they were tossed about and of the death of Chief Steward Matthews during this time, the men could say little when they were brought onto the decks of the Franconia.

New York, May 6.—The steamer Columbian, which the Cunard liner Fran-

## WALT MASON EXPLAINS

Did Not Write "Kansas Land" for a State Song.

A State Song.

Walt Mason has come to the defense of his new state song, "Kansas Land," which was criticized by a few Kansas editors, who did not believe that the rhyme was perfect, although they did not offer suggestions for improvement. Mason's song was written and set to music an hour after a request for the song had been made by Emporia students. But Mason is willing to stand his original verse and to defend it against all attacks. He also declares that he did not write it as a state song at all, but for private consumption.

The objection lodged against the Mason song was the charge that the words "glances" and "Kansas" were not perfect rhymes. The state generally has gladly accepted the Mason offering, but the Emporia poet is willing to concede a technical technical procedure and admit that the two words are not perfect in rhyme.

Answering the objections of the Kansas editors, however, Mason tells the story of the writing of the new state song and defends his work in the following paragraph in his column in the Emporia Gazette:

"They are old enough to know that considerable leeway always is allowed in poems intended for singing rather than for reading," says Mason in answer to the objections of the editors. "If perfect rhymes were essential to such productions, Robert Burns and all the other great song writers would be cast into outer darkness. And as a matter of fact, the author, it may be stated, 'Kansas Land' was not the result of an ambitious effort to furnish a state song. It was written in response to a hurry call for something about Kansas that would fit a familiar tune, and an hour after the request was received, the rhyme was written and mailed."

**Wilson Sees Circus.**

Washington, May 6.—President Wilson threw the cares of office aside last night and went to the circus. He forgot the Mexican question and the administration legislative program while he laughed at the antics of the clowns and marveled at acrobatic stunts beneath the big tent. He enjoyed it all so much that he stayed for the "grand concert" at the finish.

With the president were his daughter, Miss Margaret, Miss Helen Bones, Dr. Mary Grayson, U. S. N., Senator Hughes of New Jersey, Secretary Tully, Thomas Pence and Otto Carmichael. The party occupied a special box which they reached after passing with the rest of the crowd through the animal tent.

**Botkin Files First.**

Old Wheel Horse Candidate for Secretary of State.

Tom Botkin, Republican candidate for secretary of state, filed his nomination papers at the state office to file his nomination papers. Botkin, who is assistant secretary of state under Chas. Sessions, filed his nomination papers with the secretary of state this morning. He filed under the twenty county plan.

Most of the Botkin petitions are from central and western Kansas. The petitions were extensively signed in all counties where they were circulated and were the first nominating petitions to be circulated by candidates for the secretary of state office. Botkin will probably be nominated for secretary of state in the Republican primaries without opposition.

**Get Topeka Planning Mill Price on all kinds of oak flooring.—Adv.**

**HIGHLAND PARK NOTES**

Mrs. Jennie Nicodem returned to her home in St. Joe, Mo., Sunday, after an extended visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Nicodem.

The H. P. Ladies Aid society will meet Thursday afternoon with Mrs. S. Dean.

Miss Elsie Case is representing the H. P. Sunday school at the state convention at Hutchinson.

Miss Lela Coleman was a guest at the Santa home Sunday.

The East Side Epworth League will give the play, "St. Nicholas Country Store," at the Highland Park school house Friday evening.

E. D. Berridge is attending the Sunday school convention at Hutchinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Steinberg and daughter, and Mrs. Shriver and daughter Grace were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Doorley.

Miss Clara Hale of Lincoln street is spending a few days with Jessie Parrish.

Ruth Gaeche of Fillmore street was a dinner guest of Mrs. C. B. Buehrer Monday evening.

Thursday evening prayer meeting will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Manhardt.

J. Ferguson returned home, after a business trip to Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson will entertain the B. A. C. alumni next Saturday evening.

The Highland Park Art club will meet Friday with Mrs. A. B. Smith.

Miss Beatrice Sims is visiting at the home of her brother, Harry Sims, at Wanamaker.

Miss Alta Eliot took her pupils of the third and fourth grades for a picnic near Vinewood Tuesday afternoon.

**MARSHALL'S BAND.**

All members are requested to meet at City park at 8 o'clock, evening in uniform for concert.

**JOHN MARSHALL, Sec.**

Just two kinds of paint—Devco and others. We sell Devco. It's all you need to know about paint.

**C. M. HILL & SON.**

—Adv. 824 Kansas Avenue.

**27 Pounds of Granulated SUGAR \$1**

WITH \$4.00 CROCKERY ORDER

**THURSDAY SPECIALS**

Grape Fruit, nice and bright, each .5¢

Crisco, small can, 22¢; medium, 44¢; large .87¢

Flour, a good bread flour, 48 lb. sack . . . \$1.07

Butter, plain wrapper, Creamery, lb. . . . . 27¢

Tea, Gunpowder, good drinking quality, 50c value, lb. 39¢

40c value, lb. . . . . 24¢

Soap, a good white laundry Soap, 8 bars . . . . . 25¢

Tea Siftings, good quality, 1 lb. package . . . . . 12¢

Peanut Butter, fresh, lb. . . . 15¢

Pie Plant, fresh, lb. . . . . 2½¢

Cabbage, new lb. . . . . 2¢

Boiling Beef, fancy quality, lb. . . . . 10¢

Syrup, 10-lb. can, yellow . . . 35¢

Tomatoes, No. 3, large size, 3 cans for . . . . . 25¢

Tomatoes, No. 2, smaller size can . . . . . 7¢

Mustard Sardines, 10c cans, 2 for . . . . . 15¢

Pure Lard, lb. . . . . 12½¢

Regal Flour, fancy Kansas wheat flour, 48 lb. sack \$1.15

Shoulder Steaks, cut from prime corned cattle, lb. 15¢

## BECKER ON TRIAL

The Man Accused of Plotting Murder of Rosenthal

Arraigned the Second Time in the Criminal Court.

New York, May 6.—Crowds of curious men and women jammed the corridors of the criminal court building today for the opening of the second trial of Charles Becker, the former police lieutenant and head of the strong arm squad, for the murder of the gambler, Herman Rosenthal. Four men—the gunmen, so called—recently paid for the murder with their lives, but Becker, the alleged instigator, was saved by a ruling of the court of appeals. After months in the death house, he was transferred to the Tombs in this city, out of which he was brought today, across the Bridge of Signs, for the second battle for his life. The scene of the trial was the criminal branch of the supreme court, the same as at the first trial, but Justice Samuel Seabury presided in place of Justice M. Goff.

Charles A. Whitman, district attorney, appears for the state as he did at the first trial, but John A. McInerney succeeded as chief counsel for Becker by Martin T. Manton. The utmost caution will be employed in the selection of the jury. Among other things, the talesmen will be asked whether the fact that gunmen paid the penalty for the crime will prejudice them. It was the intention of the remainder of the week would be required to complete the jury and that the trial will last three weeks or a month.

Nearly 100 witnesses have been subpoenaed by the state and the defense. Many of the witnesses at the last trial have been ignored by the district attorney. It is not believed that Sam Schepps, one of the principal informers at the previous trial, will be called.

A chauffeur named Cohen, who testified for the defense at the first trial, has, according to rumor, come over to the side of the prosecution and will support Schepps as a corroborating witness concerning an alleged meeting between Becker and the conspirators prior to the murder.

The crime for which Becker stands indicted took place early in the morning of July 16, 1913, and was the result of a war among factions of gamblers. Rosenthal, a gambler with a grudge, went to District Attorney Whitman with a tale involving Becker. In the language of the defense, "a squealed." But Rosenthal's "squeal" was never finished. He was shot down on the sidewalk in front of the Hotel Metropole.

**MAY CONSOLIDATE.**

Blind and Deaf Schools to Unite in Kansas City.

That the school for the blind at Kansas City may be consolidated with the school for the deaf at Olathe, the Bell Memorial hospital at Rosedale, has been removed to Kansas City, Kan., is a plan being worked out by the state boards. Members of the state educational administration board were in conference in Kansas City this week and the question of consolidation and removal is now being worked out.

Since the work of the deaf and blind schools are similar in many respects, it is believed that the two state institutions can be consolidated and much of the overhead expense of the individual schools eliminated. If this policy is adopted, it is then probable that the state hospital and medical school at Rosedale may be removed to Kansas City, Kan., under the recent act of the state legislature permitting that town to levy taxes for the raising of \$100,000 for the support of the school.

Mrs. Cora G. Lewis and Ed Hackney, members of the educational board, attended the Wyandotte county conference this week and it is stated that

**Chicago Grain Market.**

Chicago, May 6.—WHEAT—Close, May, 59½¢; July, 59½¢; Sept., 59½¢; Dec., 59½¢.

CORN—May, 59½¢; July, 59½¢; Sept., 59½¢; Dec., 59½¢.

OATS—May, 59½¢; July, 59½¢; Sept., 59½¢; Dec., 59½¢.

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